

HOUSE BILL 546

By Elam

AN ACT to name a bridge in honor of Army  
Specialist Michael Lane Stansbery, Jr.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Army Specialist Michael Lane Stansbery, Jr., who was killed on July 30, 2010, while serving in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, a beloved son, brother, and fiancé, Michael Lane Stansbery, Jr. was a 2007 graduate of Wilson Central High School, where he was a member of the wrestling team, and proud member of Jr. ROTC; and

WHEREAS, following the patriotic tradition for which Mt. Juliet, Wilson County and the Volunteer State are renowned, Michael Lane Stansbery, Jr. enlisted in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Army Spc. Michael Lane Stansbery, Jr., was deployed to the Kandahar Province, Afghanistan as an active duty U.S. Army Automated Technical Data System Specialist assigned to Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division; and

WHEREAS, Michael Lane Stansbery, Jr.'s previous assignments include Ft. Sill, Oklahoma; Ft. Carson, Colorado; and a tour of duty in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Michael Lane Stansbery, Jr.'s dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers and his country, as exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics

that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, Michael Lane Stansbery, Jr., served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; and

WHEREAS, the Mt. Juliet City Commission has petitioned this body to name a certain bridge in Wilson County to permanently commemorate the singular patriotism, courage and commitment to duty of the late Spc. Michael Lane Stansbery, Jr., United States Army; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs with this excellent proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a bridge in Wilson County is hereby designated the "Spc. Michael Lane Stansbery Jr. Memorial Bridge."

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or affix suitable markers designating such bridge as the "Spc. Michael Lane Stansbery Jr. Memorial Bridge." The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.